

### **Advanced Smart Munitions**

- a designer's perspective
  - New Missions
  - New Challenges
  - New Solutions

**Briefing to the NDIA Firepower Symposium** 

June 21, 2000

**Abraham Shrekenhamer** 

**Aerojet** 





## The Evolving Battlefield

- Fluidity -
  - Rapid force movements by friend and foe alike
- Digitization
  - Improved surveillance and communications and situational awareness
- More Urbanized Terrain
  - Impediment to movement and sensors
  - Combatants mixed with non-combatants
- ◆ Increased Fire Support Delivery Range And Accuracy
  - Gliding projectiles, guided rockets and ballistic missiles, cruise missiles
- ◆ Diversified Target Arrays
  - Trend towards greater dispersion / lower density
  - Mixed target element types (high and low value) in same area



### Diversified Targets In Complex Scenarios



#### **Counterfire**

• Small, mobile artillery units: towed, SPH's, MRL's, mixed with support vehicles

#### **Interdiction**

- Armored columns on road or cross country march
- Assembly areas with tanks, SPH's, trucks

#### High Value / Low Density

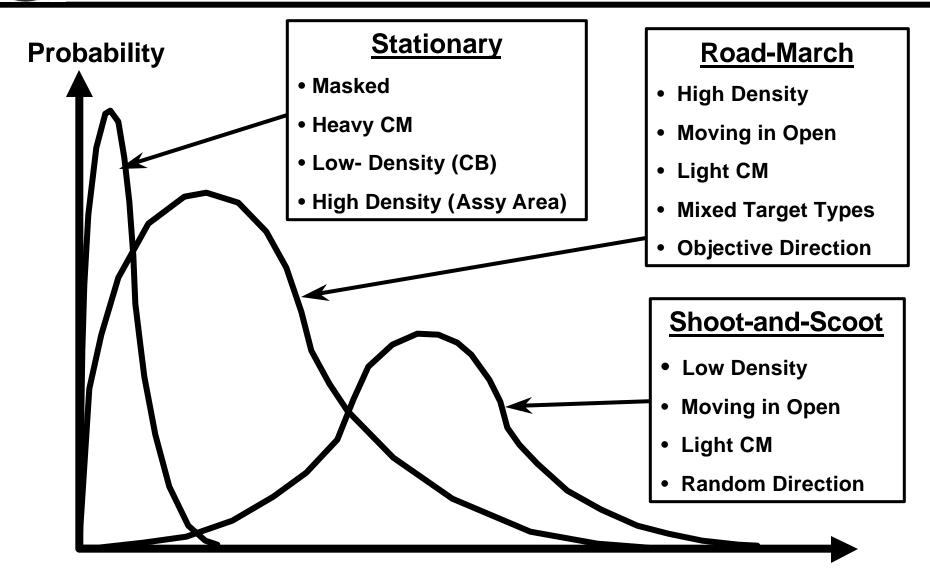
- SRBM/MRBM TEL
- Air defense units

#### **Target Tactics**

- Frequent maneuvering -- "Shoot & Scoot"
- When stationary -- emplaced in treelines, under nets, with decoys
- Exploit urbanized terrain for masking and protection whenever possible
- Proximity to noncombatants



## Scenarios Drive Smart Submunition Required Sensor Footprint And Signature Complexity



**Target Location Error + System Delivery Error** 



## Smart Submunition Key Impact Is AEROJET On The Sensor

- Flexible Target Acquisition Footprint (Sensor Detection Range)
  - Maneuvering target sets at depth
  - Initial target acquisition errors
  - C<sup>3</sup>I delays
  - Submunition carrier flyout delays
  - Collateral damage considerations
- Improved Target Detection (Sensor Use Of Scenario Context)
  - Targets in urban clutter
- Target Classification
  - Attack high value targets preferentially in mixed target scenarios
  - Collateral damage considerations
  - Bias warhead aimpoint to a target-specific center-of-vulnerability and control warhead pattern



## Available Sensor Technologies AEROJET

#### Imaging LADAR

limited all-weather capability, good target classification, potentially good detector of targets in urban environments

#### MMW

all-weather, increased detection range capable, limited target classification capability

#### Imaging IR

moderate all-weather capability, moderate target classification

#### Imaging Visible

low cost, requires nocturnal illuminators, limited by weather

#### Acoustic

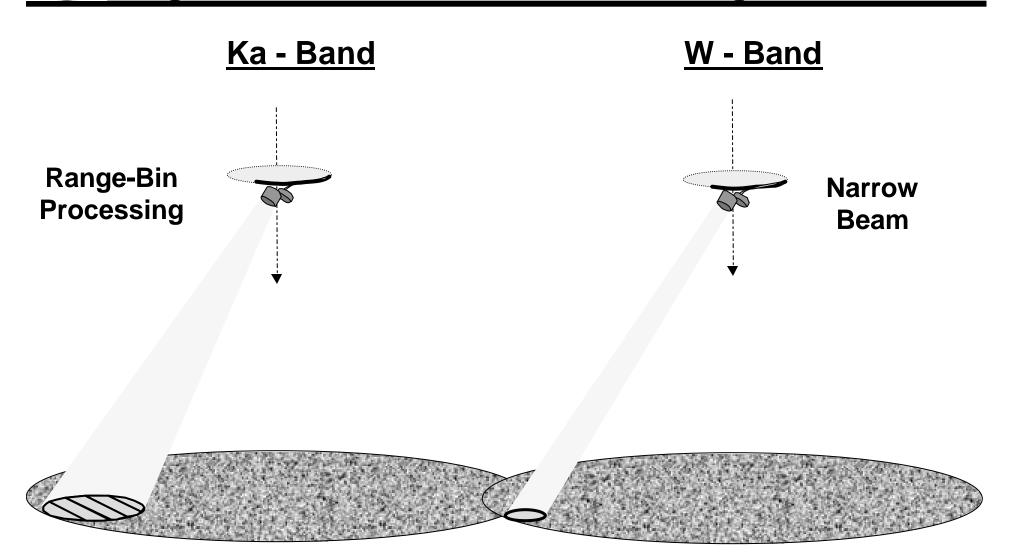
all-weather, susceptible to decoys, ineffective against targets with engines shut down, requires a "quiet" submunition

#### Magnetic

limited footprint, limited sensitivity against aluminum-hulled targets



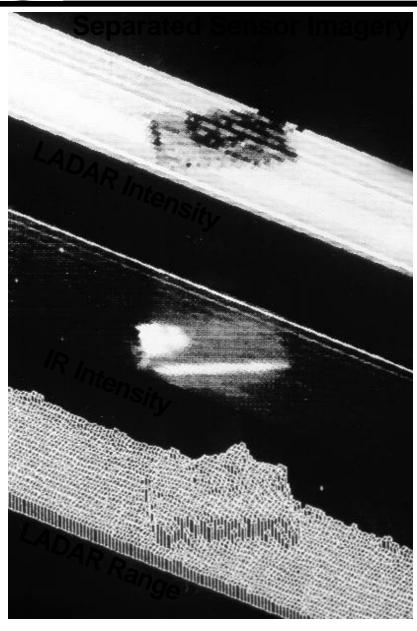
## MMW Sensor Technologies Aim At Improved AEROJET Target-To-Clutter Ratio At Extended Ranges

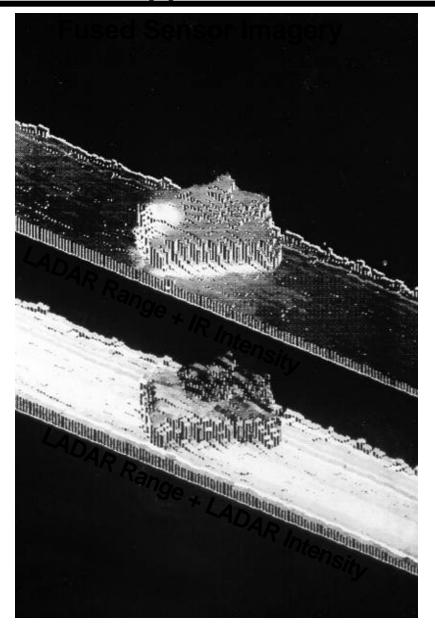




### IR-LADAR Imagery Fusion Demonstrates AEROJET The Value Of A Multi-EO-Sensor Approach

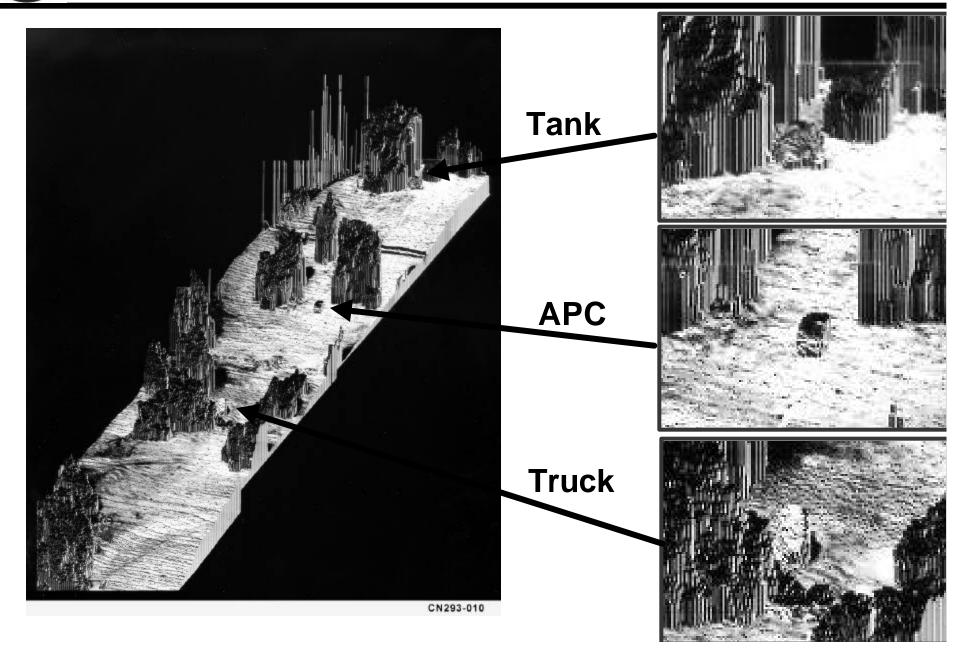








# Fused IR-LADAR Sensors Enable Target Detection And Classification In Heavy Clutter





## **Summary**

- Evolving missions for smart munitions create technological challenges for sensors
  - Tailored footprint and detection range.
  - Target classification.
- Aerojet is meeting these challenges by ongoing work in:
  - MMW radars with range binning and higher operating frequencies.
  - Combined LADAR-IR imaging sensors.
  - Advanced signal processing.